

<sup>51</sup>  
--140. The method of Claim 48 wherein the fineness of focus of said beam of laser light is controlled via beam expansion and subsequent focusing of said beam of light prior to said treating with light.--

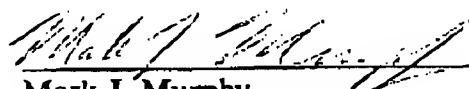
<sup>112</sup>  
--141. The method of Claim 73 wherein the fineness of said focal zone is controlled via beam expansion and subsequent focusing of said beam of light prior to said directing step.--

--142. The apparatus of Claim 117 wherein the fineness of said focal point or focal plane is controlled via beam expansion and subsequent focusing in said focusing apparatus.--

#### REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is being submitted to add further dependent claims to the above-identified application, which has not yet been examined. It is believed that these amendments add no new matter to the application. Accordingly, it is requested that they be entered and examined. Please charge our deposit account 03-3135 for the charge for these additional claims.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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